

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 /087 W

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R 060924Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2310

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN,TH

SUBJ: TEMCO: DR. THAWAT'S LAST SHOT?

REF: BANGKOK 20741

1. BANGKOK POST ON OCT 3-4 ATTRIBUTED TO ERSTWHILE PHANG-NGA GOV, DR. THAWAT MAKKHARAPHONG ALLEGATION THAT TEMCO IS SEEKING TO NEGOTIATE WITH OFFSHORE MINING ORGANIZATION--NEW STATE ENTERPRISE ESTABLISHED TO OPERATE TIN CONCESSION WITH- DRAWN FROM TEMBO--ROLE IN RESUMPTION OF MINING OPERATIONS, AND THUS CONTINUE TO EXPLOIT THAILAND'S RESOURCES. ACCORDING PRESS, DR. THAWAT ALSO HINTED THAT THE SEP 30 GREADE BLAST WHICH CLAIMED 17 LIVES IN PHANG-NGA "WAS THE WORK OF SOME INFLUTENTIAL MINING CAPITALIST WHO SUFFERED SEVERE LOSSES BECAUSE OF HIS CRACKDOWN."

2. COMMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER HAS DEMONSTRATED HIS AUTHORITY IN THE TEMCO MATTER BY TRANSFERRING DR. THAWAT, BUT IF, AS WE ACCEPT, THE FOREGOING PRESS REPORTS ARE ACCURATE IN TENOR, DR. THAWAT'S STATEMENTS, NOT CHALLENGED BT THE RTG, PROVIDE FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER FEELS COMPELLED AT THIS MOMENT TO DEAL WITH MOST

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OFFICIAL INFRACTIONS OF DISCIPLINE AND GOOD ORDER AS

MATTERS WHICH WILL DIE ABORNING FOR LACK OF MEMENTUM. DR. THAWAT IS , OF COURSE, CORRECT THAT TEMCO UNDER NEW CORPORATE NAME, HOPES TO ENGAGE IN A JOINT VENTURE WITH THE OFFSHORE MINING ORGAIZATION, BUT HIS TRANSFER TO LAMPHUN, PROBABLY THIS WEEK WILL HOPEFULLY ISOLATE HIM FROM THE SITUATION.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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